

Amendments to Claims

We claim:

1. (Original) Improved drip pipelines, comprising a pipe having bores created therein for dispensing water to the soil, and a layer pervious to water applied to said pipe to screen the said bores.
2. (Original) Pipelines according to claim 1, wherein the layer pervious to water is a fabric sleeve.
3. (Original) Pipelines according to claim 1, wherein the layer pervious to water is a metal spiral sleeve.
4. (Original) Pipelines according to claim 2, wherein the pervious layer screens at least the surface of the segments of the pipeline wherein a bore or bores have been drilled.
5. (Original) Pipelines according to claim 3, wherein the sleeve is made of a metal wire resistant to the environment, wound in spiral form.
6. (Amended) Pipelines according to claim 2, wherein the fabric is textured polypropylene or polyester.
7. (Original) Pipelines according to claim 2, wherein the fabric has a permeability to water of at least 0.80.
8. (Original) Pipelines according to claim 2, wherein the fabric sleeve consists of rectangular pieces having their long edges juxtaposed and joined.
9. (Amended) Pipelines according to claim 3, wherein the sleeve has a permeability to water of at least 80 wt%.
10. (Original) Pipelines according to claim 3, wherein the sleeve consists of a stainless steel wire, having a diameter from 1 to 1.5 mm.

11. (Amended) Pipelines according to claim 2 or 3, comprising pipes having sections of length up to 500 meters, inner diameter from 4 to 25 cm, wall thickness from 100 to 1200 microns, bores drilled therein in the number of from 1 to 10 per meter of length.

12. (Amended) Pipelines according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the sleeve has an inner diameter larger than the outer diameter of the pipe, whereby to leave a gap between sleeve and pipe.

13. (Original) Method of protection of already laid drip pipelines, which comprises juxtaposing to each of a number of pipe sections a layer pervious to water.

14. (Original) Method of making an improved drip pipeline, which comprises providing pipe sections having drilled holes, and applying to said pipe sections a layer pervious to water.

15. (Amended) Method of making improved drip pipelines, comprising a pipe having bores created therein for dispensing water to the soil, and a fabric sleeve, consisting of rectangular pieces having their long edges juxtaposed and joined, pervious to water is applied to said pipe to screen the said bores according to claim 8, wherein the sleeve of fabric is produced by juxtaposing to each pipe section a rectangular piece of fabric, folding said piece of fabric over said pipe section so as to juxtapose its longitudinal edges and connecting said edges.

16. (Cancel) Use of water pervious and root impervious sleeves, chosen from the group consisting of fabric sleeves and metal spirals or springs, for the protection of drip irrigation pipelines.